Waiving Interest on Cooperative Loans Payable by Farmers in Drought Affected States

1677. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have accepted the policy of waiving the interest on loans payable by the farmers to cooperative societies as one of the drought relief measures; and

(b) whether the Government of India would share the burden of the States when the States waive the interest payable by the farmers on such loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) As a policy, the Government of India are not in favour of any measures involving write off/waiver of either loan or interest thereon payable by the farmers to Cooperative Socities, as it tends to vitiate the climate of recovery, encourage wilful default and undermine the viability of credit institution. However, there are inbuilt provisions under the existing instiutional arrangements for conversion/reschedulement of loans in the event of crop failure due to national calamities. In addition, the Government of India have also introduced a new comprehensive crop insurance scheme with effect from kharif, 1985, with a view to provide relief to the loanee farmers in the event of crop failure due to natural calamities.

(b) In view of the position explained above, there is no such propsosal.

Paradeep Phosphate Limited

1678. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which the office of Paradeep Phosphate Limited has been functioning in Delhi in addition to one in Orissa; and

(b) whether Government propose to close down the Delhi office of the unit immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The Paradeep Phosphates Limited (P.P.L.) is implementing fertilizers project at Paradeep in two phases. Phase I of the project has been completed. Phase II of the project which involves the construction of Phosphoric Acid, Sulphuric Acid and Captive Power Plants, is in hand. At this stage of the project, important functions like planning procurement of equipment organising working capital, liaison with Government agencies etc. can be done more effectively from Delhi.

(b) There is no proposal to close down the Delhi office of the company immediately.

Ownership of Janta Flats in Ranjit Nagar, New Delhi

1679. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ownership has not so far been given to the allottees of DDA Janta Flats built in Ranjit Nagar, near Shadi Pur, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the price of these flats has not yet been fixed by DDA and DDA has not handed over the flats to their owners as a result of which neither DDA nor the owners undertake the repair and maintenance thereof;

(c) whether the grills/glazing in the windows have not yet been fixed so far as a result of which thefts frequently take place in these flats;

(d) whether it is a fact that staircases are not covered and thus pose a serious threat to children;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the menace of stray cattle like pigs has made the life miserable in this colony particularly in 'C' to 'E' Blocks; and

(f) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India *vide* its order dated 11.6.84 has decided

to liquidate these flats in favour of the allottees/occupants. The price of the flats has already been fixed and in many cases notices for payment have also been issued. The flats will be liquidated only after the payment of the price and clearance of arrears of licence fee.

The DDA has ceased to maintain these tenements with effect from 11-6-84 and it is the responsibility of occupants/allottees to maintain these tenements after 1 6.84.

(e) and (f) The cattle catching staff conducts raids in the area from time to time and they have been directed to attend to stray cattle nuisance more vigorously.

Fodder and seeds to tribal farmers in Rajasthan

1680. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memoranda recently from the tribal farmers of Rajasthan and other States, demanding fodder for the cattle and seeds to face the acute drought and famine; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) No memoranda have been received in this Ministry from tribal farmers of Rajasthan or from other States seeking assistance for fodder and seeds to face the drought situation. Administration of drought relief is the responsibility or the State Government concerned, and Central Government does not deal directly with the farmers. Government of India extends asis tance to the affected States for meeting natural calamities.

Wasteful Expenditure by ICAR

1681. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the Annual report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research containing many instances of infructuous/ wasteful expenditure incurred by the Council during the last one year;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made to fix responsiblity for such infructuous and wasteful expenditure; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the year 1984-85 which *Inter-alia* includes the Audit Report on the Accounts of the ICAR for the year 1984-85 was placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 12.5.1986. The Audit Report contains 16 paras. In accordance with Bye-law 20 of the Bye-Laws of the ICAR Society, the Governing Body is vested with the authority to deal with the audit objections before the same are placed before the Annual General Body. The Audit Report for the year 1984-85 together with the Council's comments was placed before the Governing Body on 25-3-1986 and subsequently before the Annual General Body on 27-3-1986. The Council is further pursuing the audit objections as per directives given by the Governing Body.

(b) The audit objections are to be finally dealt with in accordance with the directions given by the Governing Body. However, all concerned have been advised to take disciplinary action wherever necessary in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

(c) No action is required to be taken by the Government in view of the clarifications given against paras (a) and (b) above.

Allotment of flats under the Self-Financing Scheme by DDA

1682. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of flats under the